

NO THINKING PERSON WILL REFUSE TO BACK WILSON, SAYS DARROW

BY CLARENCE DARROW.

I have been a pacifist and, to a certain extent, I still am one, and, therefore, I am able to understand their point of view. It seems to me that there is a limit to any theory. No one can be sure of his logic, and when it runs against deep human emotions it is time to take a second thought. I can see no way that any right-thinking person can refuse to follow the president in his course concerning the war. Most of the pacifists' positions are not only illogical, but silly.

We are told that this is a capitalists' war; that Wall street is seeking to fasten a military system upon us; that the moneyed interests and they alone are responsible for the United States raising troops and sending money to help the allies. The commonest reader of current events must know that this has no foundation. The interests of this country have not been for war. The so-called subsidized press has not been for war. Wall street and munition makers have only recently favored war. I know something of the power of money and the selfishness of men; men who have money and men who have no money. I know something, too, of the lengths to which men will go to keep their money and get more, but it is a mistake to think that a man with money has not the same instincts and feelings as the man without it. It is a mistake to believe that a poor man looking at the invasion of France and Belgium is moved by one emotion, when a rich man looking at the same situation is moved by a different one.

The entry of the United States into this war has come slowly—very,

very slowly. It is almost three years since the war began, but we are still out, while nearly all the nations of Europe are fighting. We have certainly shown no mad haste to go to war. If the munition makers and Wall street have no human feelings, and are interested in dollars, and dollars alone, they have been doing very well as the matter stands. It is better for them to make money by sending munitions to Europe than to tax themselves and seriously interfere with industry by coaxing the United States into combat. These capitalists as capitalists should be content to make large profits selling guns, but a course of events which has been inevitable so far as American capital or American labor is concerned, has drawn us into conflict.

Were the munition makers in America in any way responsible for the German military system overrunning Belgium and invading France? Were they in any way responsible for the deliberate and cold-blooded sinking of the *Lusitania*? Were they in any way responsible for the sinking of the *Sussex* or the